

# Norris Dam State Park

## Tea Room

The TEA ROOM, on the East side of Norris Dam State Park, was built back in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps as part of the Norris Project and Roosevelt's New Deal. Through the years, the building has been used as a restaurant under State and private management. Due to the historical significance of the building, we have designated it a NO SMOKING building.

Since the closure of the TEA ROOM from regular service, many different events have taken place within its walls. From Chamber Breakfasts to feeding almost 300 bike riders on a ride across Tennessee. By far, the most common event is a wedding. With the open amphitheater just across the street, and cabin accommodations within walking distance, it has become a one stop location for these happy events. For whatever your interests, we have compiled this information to aid you in making your plans in using our facility.

The interior building is a two-tier floor plan with exposed cathedral ceilings. The front doors enter onto the upper tier (22' X 37') where the stone fireplace is the center piece along the right wall. Fires are allowed with wood provided in season. If you will be using the fireplace, please let the staff know in advance. The restrooms exit to the right off this level also. As with the times of when the building was constructed, the ladies restroom contains a parlor with mirrors for make up needs.

The left side of the upper tier is a bench that runs the width of the wall. The lower tier can be viewed from this area. A double door across from the entrance leads out onto a wood deck (31' X 15') that looks down upon the woods and Norris Lake when the trees are dormant.

Four steps drop down to the lower tier (23' X 37'). This makes for a convenient area for serving refreshments.

The kitchen is completely furnished with freezer, refrigerator, ovens, grill, and dish washer. Many of the local catering services have used our kitchen and are aware of what we have. Should you decide to use this equipment yourself, a through briefing will be required on the use of these items. We DO NOT furnish any dishes, flatware, or glasses.

TABLES--There are 10 long tables (20" X 72"-seating six) and an additional 4 long folding tables in the building. WE DO NOT MOVE IN OR OUT TABLES. If you need more table space, you must make arrangements with outside vendors. Seating for about 100 persons is the maximum we recommend. From our experience, greater numbers of guests are not comfortable. Seating is provided by ladderback chairs and the benches on the upper tier.

Some of our guests have used one tier for food and visiting while the upper tier for dancing. A small band or DJ can be used and still have room for dancing as long as no tables are on the upper tier.

**NO PETS ARE ALLOWED INSIDE THE TEA ROOM!**





*Tea Room Fireplace*